

Miscellaneous.

Correspondence of the Charleston Courier.
WASHINGTON, May 21.

The Bankrupt bill was again taken up in the Senate, yesterday, and Mr. Dixon, of Rhode Island, spoke in favor of the bill for voluntary bankruptcy.

We are anxious to hear Mr. Calhoun's opinion as to the constitutionality of a law extending to banks. It is probable that a majority will be found in the Senate for the voluntary system alone.

In the House, there was a discussion upon the preemption bill from the Senate the question being whether it should be referred to the committee of the whole, or acted on in the House. It was not decided. All these measures in relation to the public lands, occasion much excitement and difficulty.

The bill introduced by Mr. Bell, for guarding the freedom of elections, by prohibiting executive officers from interfering in them in any manner, was taken up, and Mr. Brown, of Tenn., replied to the speeches of Mr. Bell and Geary.

The question was, "shall the bill be rejected," and the previous question being ordered, the bill was rejected—yeas 108, nays 53. A similar bill introduced in the Senate, last winter, by Mr. Crittenden, was there rejected, only five voting in favor of it.

The Sub-Treasury bill, from the Senate, has been taken up at last. Mr. A. H. Johnson, who in the absence of Mr. Jones, the chairman of the committee on ways and means, acts as chairman, moved that the House go into Committee, which was agreed to, and the Sub-Treasury bill was taken up by the committee—yeas 101, nays 64.

The bill was read through, and then the first section was read for amendment. No one rose to speak. Mr. Jones intended to open the debate by a brief exposition of the character and objects of the bill, but he is detained at home by indisposition. Mr. Cushing then took the floor and moved to strike out the enacting clause of the bill—that is, to reject it. He said, although this was emphatically the measure of this administration, it was brought before us without any report from the committee on finance, and without any favorable introduction to our notice. It would be useless he thought to go into the details of a measure so objectionable, until the sense of the committee was taken upon its general merits. If no friend of the bill wished to speak of its merits, he would go on and expose its demerits. Mr. Atherton said the measure was an old acquaintance. It had been recommended by the President in four messages and been often discussed and reported upon. Every member of this House was sent here to vote for or against this bill. There was no necessity, at present, for an exhibition of its general merits. After the gentleman from Mass. had given us his objections to the measure, he would endeavor to reply. So, Mr. Cushing resumed the floor, but, as the hour was late, the committee rose. Mr. Cushing will speak to-day.

May 22.

The Bankrupt Bill was again taken up in the Senate, yesterday, and as no one rose to speak on it, Mr. Hubbard moved its postponement till Monday, when Mr. Allen would be here to speak. Some Senators were anxious, however, to take the vote on the motion of Mr. Wall, to substitute his bill for the one reported by the majority of the Committee. It was objected, that Mr. Wall was absent, and that he wished to be here when the vote was taken. Mr. Clay said he would pair off with him, and it was also suggested that Mr. Southard, who was opposed to the substitute, was also absent, so that the friends of the substitute would have a fair chance.

Mr. Walker was willing that the vote should now be taken. He would express his views of the subject in a few words. The people of his State were anxiously expecting the passage of this bill. It would afford them some relief. He was in favor of a voluntary system applying to persons of all descriptions, and of a compulsory system applying to the Banks only. He would not exempt the Banks which had been the chief cause of the suffering in his State. But, if the friends of the Banks here and elsewhere, should succeed in exempting the Banks from the operation of the bill, he would not say that he would withhold his vote from the other bill. Mr. Webster submitted to the gentleman from Mississippi, whether it was proper to speak of Senators here, as friends of the Banks. There were those here who were as little friendly to the Banks and their conduct as the gentleman himself, but were still opposed to the proposition to embrace them in the bill. Mr. Walker thanked the gentleman for his lecture, and assured him that he intended no discourtesy to any one. But he had not used the phrase "friends of the Banks" in any offensive sense. He meant those who were friendly to the continuance of Banks, in contradistinction to those like himself, who were opposed to their existence. He advocated the substitute of Mr. Wall, because he new it would destroy the Banks. The Banks, he said, are always in a state of insolvency and bankruptcy. They never issue a promise to pay, without becoming bankrupt, for they cannot pay. The bill which he advocated would extinguish the Banks. Mr. W. also spoke of the justice of the proposition to bring the Banks as traders, under the liabilities of compulsory bankruptcy.

Mr. Tallmadge said he had wished to speak on the subject, but was unable and unwilling to do so now. If the Senate did not think proper to take the vote now, he would endeavor to speak the next day. The motion to postpone until Monday, was withdrawn, and Mr. Tallmadge will speak to-day.

We have not heard yet from Mr. Calhoun, on this subject.

The debate on the Sub-Treasury Bill has commenced in earnest. Mr. Cushing spoke the whole of yesterday against the bill, without concluding the first branch of his speech. He was on the floor five hours, and I presume, will take as much more time to-day, if the bill should be taken up. Mr. Duncan and several other administration men were taking notes. I

presume there will be many speeches in support of the bill. The bill cannot be taken upon Mondays, Fridays nor Saturdays, without a vote of two-thirds, which cannot be got, as long as Whigs continue in their present temper in regard to the measure of course, we must have a long debate. Mr. Jones expects to get it out of Committee in three weeks, but he reckons without his host, the thing is impossible.

May 23.

The Senate, yesterday, had the Bankrupt Bill under consideration. Mr. Tallmadge spoke briefly in favor of the exercise, by Congress, of their constitutional power over this subject.

The bill lies over till Monday, when Mr. Preston, will give his views on the subject. I do not know what sort of a bill he is in favor of, but, recollecting that South Carolina took the lead, in 1827, in endeavoring to obtain the passage of a Bankrupt law, I cannot suppose that either of her Senators will oppose it now, when it is much more necessary, and is more urgently demanded than at any former time.

In the House of Representatives, the Senate's bill for extending the provisions of the law granting pre-emption rights to settlers on public lands, so as to embrace many additional cases, was taken up, and as usual, produced some excitement. The western men fought very hard for, and gained the victory. A motion to lay it on the table was lost—yeas 65, nays 104. A motion to commit it to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, was opposed on the ground that, at this late stage of the session, it would be equivalent to giving the bill the go by. The motion was lost—yeas 91, nays 100. This was a test vote, and I presume the bill will be ordered to a third reading on Monday, when it again comes up in due course.

Mr. Atherton moved to suspend the rules in order to move that the Sub-Treasury Bill be made the special order for this day, and every succeeding day, after 12 o'clock, until it be disposed of. But the motion was lost, not even a majority voting for it.

The private orders were taken up, and the old game of opposition to any private business was commenced. Mr. Petriken had moved to strike out the enacting clause of the bill under consideration, giving as a reason for it, that if these bills were passed and millions of public money voted away, the democratic majority in the House would be held responsible for it. The Chair called him to order for irrelevancy, but the decision was reversed. The bill in question was laid aside; but subsequently, the private calendar was taken up, and the House proceeded in good earnest to act upon a number of bills.

It is now ascertained that no proposition for an adjustment of the Boundary question with Great Britain, was received by the British Queen. It was rumored that dispatches might have been received by Mr. Fox, instructing him to offer some compromise, but it is not so.

May 24.

The Senate did not sit yesterday. The House refused to reconsider the vote by which the motion to commit the pre-emption bill was rejected. The bill to repay the fine of 1000 dollars which was exacted from Matthew Lyon, under the alien and sedition laws, was discussed and finally passed by a very large majority. The only objection made to it was, that the time had long passed, and that the true circumstances of the case were forgotten. The bill had often been before Congress before, and had been rejected or defeated by delay. The vote shows that both parties in the House vie with each other in disclaiming federalism and the act of the old federal party. All claim to be republicans—democrats, and the two parties mutually accuse each other of federalism. The struggle is for power, no principle.

The House finally passed about one hundred and fifty private bills—much to their credit.

The whigs generally seem disposed to let the Sub-Treasury bill have a fair chance after Monday next. They will suffer it to be fully debated, and will offer no facious or unreasonable opposition to its progress. A prominent Whig member says they will allow it to be reported and passed in about three weeks. But there are at least a hundred speeches to be made for and against it.

From the Georgian.

SAVANNAH, May 26.

More Indians Murders.—We learn from a passenger in the steamer Gen. Clinch, Capt. Brooks, from Black Creek, that on Saturday forenoon, between 9 and 10 o'clock, Mr. Forbes' Theatrical Company, with some others, were on their way from Picolata to St. Augustine, and within 5 or 6 miles from the latter place, (the party occupying two wagons) when the wagon in the rear was attacked by a party of Indians, and Mr. C. Vass was killed. Two others are missing, supposed to be a part of Mr. Forbes' company. Mr. F. it seems, was in the front wagon with the ladies of the party, who escaped, and reached St. Augustine in safety. It is supposed that the Indians conceived the wagons to be a military escort. We congratulate the estimable Mr. Forbes on his escape.

More Lives Sacrificed.—We have received by the same conveyance, from an esteemed correspondent, the following sad intelligence:—

Black Creek E. F., May 23.

To the Editor of the Georgian.

Sir—The express has just arrived, and brings the following intelligence:

Extract from the Report.—Lieut. Martin, 2nd Infantry, left Micanopy on the morning of the 19th, with three men from his post, Wakahosta; after proceeding about four miles he was fired upon by Indians. He received three balls, one through the lower part of the abdomen, one through the arm, and one in his hand—one of his men and all the horses killed—the other two missing. Lieut. Sanderson, 7th Infantry, with a party of seventeen men, was sent in pursuit. He fell in with the Indians and he and five of his men were killed.

Yesterday morning and express from Wakahosta to Micanopy, reported that Post surrounded by Indians. Col. Riley

with his command has gone in pursuit.—It was his command that picked up Lieut. Sanderson, and his men there was supposed to be about 50 Indians. It is supposed that Lieut. Martin will recover. Lieut. Sanderson had his fingers cut off and stuck in his mouth.

We are also indebted to one of our citizens for the following extract of a letter dated

Black Creek, May 23.

We have no news here worth relating, only that a party of Indians on the 19th inst, fired on a detachment of 18 men, killing Lieut. Sanderson and five men.—Lieut. Martin mortally wounded, and two men missing. This affair took place near Micanopy.

SAVANNAH, May 24th 1840.

From Florida.—By the steamer packet Florida, Capt. Nock, arrived yesterday afternoon, we received the Jacksonville Advocate of Tuesday last, from which we extract the following:

Capt. J. B. Mason.—We are gratified to find that this indefatigable officer is still to remain in the service. The opening afforded by Gen. Armstrong, for the exhibition of military skill and enterprise could not have been placed before a more worthy officer than Capt. Mason, and one, who we are confident will do credit to the situation, and honor to the Territorial service.

We are requested to state that Capt. Mason's command is increased to 200, and that an opportunity is offered to all who are desirous of joining him, to do so by repairing to the rendezvous at Black Creek, before Thursday next, at which time he will take up his line of march for the Indian country.

From the Charleston Courier.

Atkins, S. C. May 25.

Gentlemen.—We hasten to-day before you the particulars of an affair, tragical and somewhat mysterious in its nature, that occurred this morning in our village.

The dwelling of a respectable citizen of this place, during the absence of all its inmates, with the exception of two little girls, was entered by an individual unknown to this community, who, having satisfied himself respecting the occupation and wealth of its owner, was about departing, when the lady of the house returned, and finding a stranger man on the premises, and the little girls in tears, from fright, demanded the business of the intruder, and insisted on his immediately leaving the place. This the ruffian now seemed to feel no inclination to do, and on being spoken to rather harshly in regard to his indecorous and unprincipled conduct, deliberately drew from his pocket a pistol, and with an oath that he would kill her, fired, but fortunately without effect. The lady then retreated into the house for safety, and an old and infirm gentleman, her grandfather, coming up at the time, the fellow was by him prevailed upon to leave the premises, not however, until he had nothing he had wrung from the old man a promise to make no mention of the occurrence, at least for some hours, thus affording him time to escape.

The facts above stated, were, however, very soon made public by the daughter, and a number of our citizens, on being apprized of the affair, went in pursuit of the offender, determining, if possible, to bring him to punishment for his unpunished and lastingly assault upon a feeble and defenceless female.

They soon succeeded in finding his place of retreat, but found no small difficulty in securing his person—he being provided with a pair of large pistols, kept his pursuers at bay, firing and reloading three or four times, as they advanced upon him, and was only taken after being shot in the head by one of the party in pursuit. He was then brought into the village, and the wound examined by a skillful physician, who pronounced it a fatal one. Being inensible, no information respecting his character or place of residence could be obtained from himself, and there were no papers on his person, from which could be learned any intelligence respecting who he was, or what was his business or object in visiting this section of country.

We have thus given you a faithful and unvarnished account of this singular and magical occurrence. And with the hope that something further might be ascertained in relation to this mysterious character, we will remark in addition to the above facts—that before being taken he stated that he was the "son of Judge Sherman, of Connecticut,"—was determined never to be arrested alive, there being warrants out against him for crimes committed in Edgefield District.

He is 5 feet 5 inches in height, dark complexion, black hair, very thin, and neatly dressed. Had with him a good quantity of ammunition, 2 pistols, a razor, a horse halter and a large walking stick.—We have heard it intimated, that he probably is the same individual who for some time past has been committing extensive robberies in our vicinity, and for whose detection a large reward was lately offered in the Edgefield Advertiser.

May 25.—The individual alluded to above, died during the night, of the wound he received in the head.

Harrison and Tyler Meeting in Hamburg.—A meeting of the friends of Harrison and Tyler, for the Presidency and Vice Presidency, was held in Hamburg, S. C., on Saturday last. The lieutenant, Mr. Green, was called to the Chair, and the meeting was addressed by Maj. W. W. Starke, Mr. A. J. Miller, Dr. F. M. Robertson, and Col. Hammond, an old revolutionary patriot, an acquaintance and friend of Gen. Harrison. A preamble and resolutions were adopted expressive of the opinions of the meeting.—Char. Cour.

The Hon. Richard Biddle, member of Congress from Pittsburg, Penn. has addressed a letter to his constituents, apprising them of his intention to resign his seat at the end of the present session on account of ill health.

Connecticut Senator.—The Hon. Jabez W. Huntington of Norwich has been elected to the United States Senate from Connecticut. On proceeding to the election in the State Senate, twenty votes were polled, twelve of which were for Mr. Huntington.—Char. Cour.

GREAT FRESHET OF THE SAVANNAH RIVER!

We have received a slip from the Office of the Hamburg Journal, of the 30th ult. which gives the following account of the late Flood of the Savannah River, which overflowed Hamburg, S. C.

UNPARALLELED DISASTER!

We are at length able to get into our printing-house, to announce, in this hurried manner, some of the particulars of the most disastrous Freshet in the Savannah and its tributaries, which has occurred within the memory of the oldest inhabitants, and to which the Yazoo flood both as regards the height of water and the consequence was nothing. Our whole town has just emerged from the river; not a spot having escaped the flood. We filled, a few hours ago, but a corner of the picture in which two cities, hundreds of farms, &c., stood in a vast lake of water, stretching from hill to hill, with not a spot of earth in sight.

The rain which fell on Sunday, swelled the river several feet; and the earth having been completely saturated by the many rains which have fallen within the last few weeks, the river was ready to go up rapidly with every additional shower. By Wednesday morning 9 o'clock, water had risen to within two feet of the mark made for the great fresh of 1833, and before noon, had gone up some feet above it. The water had broken into the town from above early in the morning, and run over the lots and common near the hill; and at about three o'clock the rush of water into the street was immense and general. A few hurriedly constructed boats were busily plying all the day and night in getting out families from the houses in the more exposed situations, and in preserving goods. By these means and the praiseworthy prompt and untiring labors of several of our citizens, much property was saved; and what is more important, not a single soul was permitted to perish.—Not a life was lost.

The water reached its highest mark on Thursday morning about seven o'clock; but did not at once recede, as the fall for several hours was almost imperceptible. Many of the families and citizens took refuge from the flood on the hill, but a majority remained in the upper stories in perfect safety.

On Wednesday night the lower Bridge on the Savannah, after having stood severe and repeated shocks from boats, floating frames &c. throughout the day, without apparent injury, (save to one of the piers by the office of the Steam Boat Company, which floated from its moorings, and was driven against it, was destroyed by the moving masses of the upper Bridge which were sweeping down the river, that construction having given way before the force of the drift and current. Some of the piers are still standing; and it was matter of astonishment to all who witnessed the many blows which it received throughout the afternoon and evening of Wednesday, to see it hold up firmly against them all; and we question whether there has ever been a better framed wooden bridge. All are satisfied that it would have been able to resist the current and drift at their worst state, and that it would have been now standing, had there been no upper Bridge to come against it and break it down, or had that bridge possessed the strength of construction which is long sustained the lower one. However, speculation upon this subject is now out of place, except for further application. Both bridges are now gone; and the citizens of both sides of the river must endure the deprivation as they best can, and put up with such means of crossing for the present as may be provided.

At the highest stage of the water, it was up on Mr. Hubbard's house, (the American Hotel,) about nine feet; at Sibley & Crapon's, it was six and a half feet deep; at Kernaghan & Wray's, about seven feet, and it reached nearly to the eaves of Maher & Rooney's brick store. The large Warehouse of T. Kernaghan, floated from its foundation on Thursday afternoon, and swung down the current some 100 yards threatening the destruction of several buildings below. Fortunately, however, it brought up between McDonald's & Sibley's store, knocking them also from their foundation and then it halted. The warehouse is of course little better than a wreck, the upright frame being entirely crushed down.

Throughout Wednesday afternoon a night, great quantities of cotton floated down the stream, and it was wholly out of the question to catch any considerable part of it. At some women's hundreds of bales were in sight at once moving off in large fleets. We are told that below the town, on both sides of the river, it has banked up in immense piles along the shore. From the Hamburg warehouse, probably as many as a thousand bales of cotton were floated away, a large part of which went from Kernaghan's & Sibley's—but all lost more or less. The damage, too, to that which remained in the ware houses was considerable, but it is impossible to give any thing like a correct statement of it now.

Our loss here are immense—several of our citizens losing every thing they were worth in the night. Heavy stocks of groceries, and lots of salt are completely swept away, or entirely destroyed. The destruction of goods was general and fearfully extensive, and a long time must elapse ere our citizens can recover from this disastrous shock. Perseverance, economy and industry, forming a capital which the flood could not destroy are still left with us, and we trust that all will employ them in a laudable effort to recover what the flood has ruthlessly seized and taken from us.

Our Rail Road is torn up for perhaps a quarter of a mile, but suffered less injury than was apprehended. From \$6,000 to \$10,000 will probably replace the embankment, and repair all the losses.

As our brethren of the press in Augusta have given the particulars of their losses, we shall not add to these painful details any extended notice of the effects of the flood on the other side of the river. The buildings in Augusta were more injured than those of Hamburg, and the amount of cotton lost was greater; but their stores being higher, the loss of goods was not as extensive in proportion to the stocks.—The whole city was under water, with the exception of a bare spot of earth on the south side of Broad street, in the neighborhood of Mr. Rossant's National Coffee House. The disaster was general and alarming throughout Augusta; but we are happy to have it in our power to announce the gratifying circumstance, amidst all the calamities of the time, that on that side of the river also, the goodness of Providence was manifested in the complete preservation of the people from death—not a single individual was drowned.

The Augusta side of the river is swept clear of all its wharves, only fragments of one or two of them remaining. The wreck of but two piers of the upper bridge are yet standing.

The whole face of the country has been torn up—bridges and fences all swept away—corn and gardens destroyed—and great numbers of cattle and hogs drowned.

We shall give hereafter, as soon as they can be ascertained, the particular details of cotton lost, &c., &c., and must now conclude this notice, with the following rough estimate of some of the individual losses, hastily made out amidst the confusion which now prevails, and the haste and hurry of the merchants and others, in getting their things righted. Even in this, we have most probably underrated in many instances, and a great many names do not appear—all errors and omissions; however, will be corrected hereafter.

Sibley & Crapon, from 3 to \$5,000.
G. Parrot, \$3,000, besides goods on consign-

ment for merchants in Tennessee and elsewhere, worth probably \$10,000.

A. B. Church, \$2,500.
Edward Adams, \$3,000.
Mitchell & Ransom, \$4,000.
D. D. Platt, \$500.
Kernaghan & Wray, \$15,000.
T. Kernaghan, \$5,000.
Boling & Gorman, \$3,000.
T. H. Howard, \$1,500.
Anderson & Young, \$6,000.
J. W. Stokes, \$6,000.
Jeffers & Boulware, \$10,000.
H. R. Cook, \$6,000.
T. A. Cobb, \$400.
I. T. Heard & Co., 10,000.
John Oliver, \$6,000.
C. Churchill, 5,000.
Wm. Darrow, 1,500.
J. Hubbard, 7,000.
Maher & Rooney, 18,000.
C. Sausimon, 2,000.
H. W. Sullivan, 6,000.
B. Mims, 1,000.
J. H. Maxwell, 3,000.
M. R. Smith, 600.
Horace Darrow, 1,500.
S. D. Clarke & Co., 1,500.
C. L. Britton, 500.
P. B. Cook, 300.
Rail Road Company, 8,000.

The total loss in Hamburg will amount to at least half a million of dollars.

From the Augusta Sentinel, of May 30.

GREAT FRESHET.

On Wednesday night, when our first notice of the Freshet was penned, our city was in the most painful state of excitement. Already had a considerable portion of the city been inundated, and the river continued to rise at a fearful rate. To attempt a description of a calamity so awfully sublime, would be worse than vain; it required to be seen, to comprehend its vast destructive capacity. About 12 o'clock, Wednesday night, the city was completely submerged, and the river continuing to rise. The scene was a painful one; many families were still in their houses, entirely surrounded by a current to them impassable without aid, and the water making rapid inroads upon them. From this fearful and alarming situation, they were relieved by boats and horsemen, notwithstanding, in some instances, until they were standing to their necks in water. In this work of noble, generous philanthropy, many of our citizens were engaged all night; and in many instances it was perilous, as the streets in many places would swim the tallest horses. When the day dawned, our city appeared as if standing in the midst of a vast sea of water, which extended as far as the eye could reach from the highest eminence.

Boats capable of carrying forty bales of cotton were floating through every street in the city with the greatest ease, and our beautiful Broad street was from two to ten feet deep, and in some places running with the rapidity of a mountain torrent, and continued through the day yesterday. This morning the water in the river has fallen so as not to flood the city, except in one or two places which are yet strong and deep currents. And the withdrawal of the water from the other portions of the city, makes bare our streets, once beautiful and level, which presents a scene to the eye which no language can describe. Those only who are acquainted with the character of our soil can have any conception of the damage done to the streets, which in many places are washed 10 or 15 feet deep. The destruction of property, both public and private has been immense—the upper bridge has been entirely carried away, and about three or four hundred feet of the lower one. Our citizens watched throughout the day on Wednesday, with almost painful anxiety the lower bridge, and the air was rent with shouts as they saw it withstand shock after shock, from mountains of rails, mill and gin houses, bridges, dwellings and every class of tree from the small sapling to the sturdy oak of the forest which had been washed up, and was borne away by the resistless force of the torrent, full fledged with the beautiful foliage. But during Wednesday night the bridge gave way. The destruction of private property is also great. Many wood buildings have been entirely swept away, and several brick buildings have been undermined, and some have already fallen, but we cannot now give particulars. The wharves are still covered, and the damage done to them is not known but is no doubt very great, as large portions of them were seen floating off. The cellars were all with very few exceptions, filled with water, and a large amount of merchandise is destroyed in them, as they filled so rapidly in some instances as to afford the occupants no time to clear them.

A source of gratitude to the Supreme Ruler of events, that amid all this destruction of property, there has not been, that we as yet have any loss of human life. We shall, in a day or two, collect all the particulars and give whatever is of moment to our readers.

From our neighboring town of Hamburg we have had no communication since Wednesday evening, and we fear that their situation has been worse than ours, as the location of the town is rather lower.

After the foregoing was penned in the morning for our Weekly paper, we took a ride through a portion of the city, to ascertain more definitely, the extent of the calamity which has befallen our city, and the probable extent of loss, as well as to furnish particulars to our readers at a distance; but we returned convinced that any effort at description could not possibly convey any adequate idea of the state of the city. It will require days to ascertain just idea of the extent of the loss which the city and individuals have sustained.—Never have we seen such a state of things. Our streets, once the most beautiful and level, are rendered, in many places, impassable even to horsemen, and we believe there is not a street in the city, through which a carriage can pass from one end to the other.

Many dwellings have been swept entirely away, and a great many more have been rendered entirely unfit for use, and must be repaired, and in some instances almost entirely rebuilt before they can be fit for use. Several brick buildings, some of them very handsome edifices have been much injured, and others must be taken down. Much cotton has floated out from the ware houses and was carried off, and hundreds of bales are no doubt forever lost both in this city and Hamburg, the precise quantity we know not, but suppose that at least one thousand have been lost in the two places, and there are many who think our estimate not enough.

The loss to the city and individuals is variously estimated at from \$50,000 to one million dollars, and our opinion is that the smallest amount will more than cover the entire loss, though there are those who think differently. We are well satisfied that any estimate at this time, however, is entitled to but little credit, because it is nothing but conjecture. Many persons narrowly escaped drowning, and some were well nigh drowned in Broad Street, but one of the most thrilling incidents which occurred, is that of a little girl about eleven years of age, who was taken up in the middle of the river about twenty-five miles above the city, by Capt. Joseph Staunton, of a Petersburg boat. The story of the adven-

ture of this little girl, we have obtained from herself. She is the daughter Eliza, of a poor widow lady, Mrs. Sarah Stone, who lived on the river, near Ferguson's ferry, on the S. Carolina side. She says the first intimation they had of their danger, they were surrounded by the river, when her mother, a daughter, older than herself, and a faithful dog, fled to the top of their little cottage, soon after which the house was taken off by the current. One after another, they met a watery grave, Eliza and the dog only clinging to the wreck, when she came in sight of the boat of Capt. S., who had lashed his boat to a tree, and succeeded in making her cries heard. Capt. S., immediately roused his hands who were all asleep and gave chase, and after pursuing her about three miles, overtook and rescued her and the dog, from their perilous situation. Captain S. says she was on a few shingles, which were supported by a feather bed, being all that was left of the house on which she started, on which frail bark she had descended the river twelve miles when she was picked up.

We also learn that Captain S. will depart to-day and take this little survivor of an unfortunate little family back to the neighborhood of her birth. We are aware of the deep distress which presents itself and cries aloud for charity in every section of our fated city, but we do think this is an instance which has high claims upon the benevolence of our community and we hope that some of our charitable Ladies who are ever ready to aid the distressed, will consent to take her and rear her in such manner as will render her an ornament to her sex. We might say much more, but a word is sufficient.

The damage done to the Georgian Rail Road near the city, will for a time prevent the cars coming to the depot. We are however much gratified to learn from Mr. Peters, the agent, that the damage can soon be repaired at a cost not exceeding twelve or fifteen hundred dollars.

To the Editors of the Charleston Courier.

COLUMBIA, May 28, 1840.

Gentlemen.—For the last three days, we have had, for most of the time, a heavy steady rain, and from appearances, the windows of Heaven, in the upper Districts, must have been open. Yesterday morning, the Congaree began to rise, and continued, through the day, averaging about two feet an hour. During the night, it continued, to an alarming extent. This morning, the high banks were overflowed. Cotton, which was stowed on high ground, was floating down the canal. The Congaree, Broad and Saluda bridges yet stand and hopes are entertained they will be saved. On the Saluda, the water is up to the wood work of the bridge—the Congaree, about two feet of the wood work.—Should the Broad River Bridge give way, the splendid fabric of the Congaree must go likewise. Such a fresh has not been in our rivers since 1796.

The Columbia Canal of seven miles in length, is supposed to be entirely destroyed so that the last of the internal improvements, in constructing canal by the State, is swept away. All the large plantations below us, are covered with water, and the crops ruined. Col. Hampton's large plantation, which is the highest of any on the river, is one sheet of water, the destruction must be immense. While I am writing, two o'clock, P. M., the water is still rising, yet slowly. Half-past three o'clock, the water is about stationary. It is now to be hoped the bridges are safe. Hugabook Causeway is overflowed so that the stage cannot go this day. The mail leaves here on horse back, and is obliged to go near Platte's Springs, to avoid high water. Mail closes at four o'clock.

May 28.

The River at Columbia Bridge is 4 feet higher than it has ever before been. All the Ware Houses and wharves are overflowed, and much Cotton afloat.

May 28.

The River is up within one foot and a half of the Bridge, and considerable damage done to Cotton in the Ware-Houses and at the Canal, and a number of small boats lost. It is said by many that the river has never been known so high as now.

GREENVILLE, S. C. May 29.

The Rains.—In common with every part of the United States, we have been visited by excessive rains. This week a real North Easter has been blowing a storm of wind and rain, that has raised the water courses higher than they have been known in this section for years.—Our Reedy river is a Niagara in miniature, and has been unforlorn this week, a circumstance which very rarely occurs. Great injury, if not entire ruin, is expected to be the consequence of the rains to the growing crops of wheat, which have been very promising this spring. The great rise in the water courses has arrested the mails.—Mountaineer.

From the Farmer's Gazette—Extra.

CHESA, May 25.

Freshet.—We issue this short extra, for the benefit of our Pee Dee and Georgetown subscribers, to inform them of a rapid rise in the river. It rose last night 15 feet; and this morning, between five and a half and ten o'clock, 8 feet. At that time it rose only an inch and a quarter in fifteen minutes; and will probably not continue to rise much longer, without more rain.—But the appearance of the clouds with an easterly wind seems to threaten more rain. The rain which caused the rise fell on Saturday night, and yesterday morning.

SAVANNAH, May 27

Heavy Rains.—We have probably never had more rain to fall in our city, and seldom, if ever, as much in the same period, (for we do not remember such continued heavy rain) as commenced on Monday night like a deluge, (it having rained a little during the day) and continued all yesterday.

Our streets are full of water, and if it continues longer we shall have to charter some canoes to navigate them. These constant rains, we fear, will be injurious to the crops, and if as heavy in the upper counties, must do immense damage. The wind yesterday blew fresh from the North East, indicating worse weather on the coast.—Georgian.